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USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3400
Date: July 8, 2009

Mr. Mike Cronrath, Director
Safety, Occupational Health and Environment
Management (SOHEM)
Raven Rock Mountain Complex
201 Beasley Drive, Suite 100
Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5059

Dear Mike:

On June 15, 2009, I conducted an aerial detection survey for gypsy moth-caused tree defoliation at Site R. I am pleased to report that no defoliation was detected at, or in the vicinity of, your site.

It is difficult to quantify the impacts of this year's gypsy moth suppression project since gypsy moth populations have collapsed in your area primarily due to the fungal pathogen, *Entomophaga maimaiga*. This pathogen is usually prevailent during wet and cool Springs like the one that we just experienced. The impacts of *Entomophaga maimaiga* have been highly variable from year to year and are difficult to predict.

We will be conducting the gypsy moth egg mass survey at this Fall at Site R. We will coordinate this survey with Lori Davidson.

Please contact me at the 304-285-1555 if anticipate requesting financial assistance for gypsy moth control in 2010. Please call me if you have any questions regarding the aerial survey or survey letter.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Whiteman

RODNEY L WHITEMAN
Forester
Morgantown Field Office

Cc: Lori Davidson, Site R
Kevin Carlin, PA BOF
Robert Lueckel, MFO

RLW/blm